

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VICTOR 00035 170932Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DLOS-09 OES-07 IO-13 /096 W

-----028787 171124Z /14

R 170700Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0682

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L VICTORIA 0035

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, EFIS, EAID, KN, KS, SE

SUBJECT: SOUTH KOREAN RELATIONS WITH SEYCHELLES

REF: A) 77 VICTORIA 769, B) 77 SEOUL 10607, C) 77 NAIROBI 15868

1. SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR DO SOON CHUNG (RESIDENT IN NAIROBI) VISITED SEYCHELLES JAN 10-14 AND PRESENTED CREDENTIALS ON JAN 12. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY ROK EMBASSY COUNSELLOR KEE JOE KIM. KIM DEPARTED SEYCHELLES JAN 16. IN JAN 13 CALL, AMBASSADOR CHUNG SUMMARIZED FOR CHARGE HIGHLIGHTS OF VISIT AND REVIEWED STATE OF GOS-ROK RELATIONS.

2. ACCORDING CHUNG, HE HAD INFORMAL 45 MINUTE MEETING FOLLOWING CREDENTIALS CEREMONY WITH SEYCHELLES' PRESIDENT F. A. RENE AT WHICH TIME HE PRESENTED ROK POSITIONS ON NORTH-SOUTH KOREAN POLITICAL QUESTIONS. HE FOUND RENE TO BE FRIENDLY AND RECEPTIVE. CONTINUED FISHING BY SOUTH KOREAN TRAWLERS IN WATERS CLAIMED BY SEYCHELLES (WHICH IS ONLY MAJOR BILATERAL ISSUE) WAS DISCUSSED BRIEFLY AND IN GENERAL TERMS.

3. CHUNG SAID HE WAS WARMLY RECEIVED IN SUBSEQUENT CALLS ON ALL SEVEN GOS MINISTERS. HE REMARKED THAT NORTH KOREAN AMBAS-
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PAGE 02 VICTOR 00035 170932Z

SADOR JANG-IL-MAN (RESIDENT IN DAR ES SALAAM) HAD APPARENTLY BEEN ACTIVE LOBBYIST ON POLITICAL FRONT DURING HIS MID-NOVEMBER VISIT TO SEYCHELLES. CHUNG FELT HE HAD MADE CONSIDERABLE HEADWAY IN CLARIFYING "DISTORTED" GOS PERCEPTION OF NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. HE ADDED THAT MINISTERS WERE "FRIENDLY, OPEN-MINDED" AND NON-IDEOLOGICAL. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION AT PRE-DEPARTURE RECEPTION, CHUNG SAID HE WAS EXTREMELY SATISFIED WITH HIS VISIT

AND WOULD BE FORWARDING POSITIVE REPORT TO SEOUL. HE ADDED THAT, IN VIEW OF APPARENT EFFORT BY JANG-IL-MAN TO PROSELYTIZE SEYCHELLES GOVERNMENT, HE WOULD HOPE TO MAKE FREQUENT VISITS IN FUTURE AND IS TENTATIVELY PLANNING TO ATTEND COMMEMORATION OF JUNE 5 COUP D'ETAT.

4. COUNSELLOR KIM INFORMED CHARGE IN SEPARATE MEETING THAT DISCUSSION WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER FERRARI AND FISHERIES OFFICERS HAD ALSO GONE SMOOTHLY. CHUNG BROACHED SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURE AND OFFERED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INCLUDING 2-3 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SEYCHELLOIS TO STUDY AT SOUTH KOREAN FISHERIES INSTITUTE AND ADVISORS TO ESTABLISH OYSTER INDUSTRY. ACCORDING KIM, SEYCHELLOIS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE OFFER BUT SAID FISHERIES POLICY HAD NOT YET BEEN FORMULATED. (IN COURSE GENERAL EXCHANGE ON FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT JAN 16, PRESIDENT RENE TOLD CHARGE THAT SEYCHELLES WILL BE UNABLE TO FISH ENTIRE MARITIME ZONE EVEN AFTER TRAWLER FLEET IS OPERATIONAL). HE IS CONSIDERING LICENSING ARRANGEMENT WITH COUNTRIES FISHING IN SEYCHELLES' WATERS AND ALSO POSSIBILITY OF REQUIRING FOREIGN TRAWLERS TO OFF-LOAD CATCH IN VICTORIA FOR TRANSSHIPMENT).

5. FINALLY, KIM SAID ROK WILL PROVIDE GRANT OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS. 30,000 IN 1978 FOR GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND AMBASSADOR WILL BE RECOMMENDING INCREASE TO ABOUT DOLS. 50,000 IN 1979. HE ADDED THAT, AS FAR AS HE AND AMBASSADOR CHUNG HAD BEEN ABLE

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 VICTOR 00035 170932Z

TO DETERMINE, NORTH KOREANS HAVE NOT OFFERED ANY DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE TO GOS.

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